



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR HOWARD COUNTY

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Hyattsville Man Guilty in 2016 Murder of Columbia Man

A 20-year-old Hyattsville man has been convicted in the December 2016 double shooting that resulted in the death of a Columbia man. Derrick Charles Johnson, of the 3900 block of Warner Avenue, was found guilty of first-degree murder and use of a firearm in the commission of a felony by a Howard County jury following a four-day trial Friday evening. He was found not guilty in the shooting of the second victim, and multiple armed robbery charges.

Police were dispatched to the 9400 block of Woodsong Court in Laurel on December 18, 2016 where they found Kaiyon Stanfield, 20, sitting in the front passenger seat of a compact sedan, suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. Nearby, they located his cousin, Khalil Stanfield, 21, also suffering from gunshot wounds. The two men were transported to the University of Maryland Shock Trauma Center where Kaiyon Stanfield was subsequently pronounced dead and Khalil Stanfield was treated and released.

The Stanfield cousins drove a rental car to the Laurel townhome community parking lot to sell a quarter-pound of marijuana to their buyers who were seated in the rear seat. After the four smoked marijuana samples and bargained over the sale price, the first shot was fired, striking Kaiyon Stanfield in the head. He sustained two additional gunshot wounds in the neck and back. A homeowner's surveillance video of the parking lot, played during the trial, showed Khalil Stanfield bolting from the driver's seat. He sustained two shots in the neck and back. The video also depicted two suspects exiting the vehicle and running in the opposite direction. Another townhome-mounted surveillance camera, located on Daly Court, captured images of Stanfield running up to a house, and banging on the door for help.

Prosecutors reinforced witness testimony by introducing nearly 200 pieces of evidence including DNA, a palmprint left by Johnson on an interior rear window of the vehicle, along with cell phone images and texts linking him and his co-defendant, Davon Philip Jones to the shootings. A jury convicted Jones on all charges last November. He will be sentenced March 15.

During closing arguments Johnson's defense attorney contended that his client accompanied Davon Jones but didn't participate in the events that unfolded. He told the jury that it was Jones who possessed a large bag of marijuana and cash, and not his client. Assistant State's Attorney Danielle Duclaux argued to the jury, "You cannot ignore the sum total of all of the evidence: Derrick Johnson was there; Derrick Johnson has a firearm and Derrick Johnson is guilty."

Johnson will be sentenced on April 26, 2018. He is being held without bond.